

**Committee Members:**  
Christy Adair – Co-Chair  
Jenna Lewis - Co-Chair  
Penny Gilbert - Secretary  
Barbara McDermott

**Provisional Members:**  
Penny Johnson  
Jesse Smith  
Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



## Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council



Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council  
P.O. Box 5721  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

Website:  
[www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org)

PS Committee Email:  
[SoncPSCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:SoncPSCommittee@gmail.com)

### Public Safety Committee Meeting

#### MINUTES

Tuesday, February 9, 2021  
6:30 pm

---

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED TELEPHONICALLY.

Every person wishing to address the Committee must dial 1-669-900-6833 and enter 842 7040 8817 and then press # to join the meeting. The meeting can also be joined from the Zoom “Join Meeting” screen using Webinar ID: **842 7040 8817**. Instructions on how to sign-up for Public Comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT AT SONC PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

If the public wishes to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action on an item, the Public will wait to be addressed by the presiding officer before commenting. If accessing the meeting by telephone, the public is requested to press \*9. If accessing the meeting by computer, the public is requested to click on the “raise hand” button.

Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period.

Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that the public brings to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become an item on a future committee meeting agenda. Public Comment is limited to two minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

AGENDA

**1. Call to Order** by Christy Adair, Co-Chair at 6:30pm

**2. Roll Call**

Christy Adair, Barbara McDermott, Penny Gilbert

**3. Review and approval of September and January meetings minutes.**

Jeffrey Hartsough asked for roll call approval of September 2020 and January 2021 minutes. In favor of approving minutes of September 2020 and January 2021 were Christy Adair, Barbara McDermott and Penny Gilbert. Absent was Jenna Lewis.

**4. Introduction of committee members, elected officials and staff.**

Co-chair Christy Adair, Barbara McDermott, Penny Gilbert

Provisional Members: Cissy Varkey-Altamirano, Penny Johnson, Jesse Smith

Officials present: Vahid Khorsand from the Mayor's office and Alexandria Naseef from City Councilmember Nithya Raman's office.

\* Co-Chair Christy Adair took the Agenda out of order and moved #7 earlier.

**7. Presentation by Acting Senior Lead Officer Armando Magana.**

- ✓ Officer Magana shared drop of crime statistics in Sherman Oaks. Violent crime is down 4%, Property crime is down 3% and all others are down 7%.
- ✓ Officer Magana also stressed the need for residents to report emergencies and active crime by calling 911 and, for non-emergency police response, calling 1-877-ASK-LAPD. He urged citizens to stay safe and not to confront suspects.
- ✓ To file a police report, there are several types of crimes now eligible for online reporting at [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org).
- ✓ In answer to a question about requesting help for a homeless person possibly suffering a mental health crisis, depending on the circumstances, contact police (911 or 1-877-ASK-LAPD, as appropriate) or, if the police aren't needed, one resource is the LA County Dept. of Mental Health Psychiatric Emergency Team (PET) at 213-738-4775.
- ✓ Officer Magana reiterated "Lock it, Hide it, Keep It" to help prevent burglaries and thefts from motor vehicles. He was asked about "porch pirates" and package theft. Officer Magana suggested purchasing a large porch box that can be locked and opened only by delivery personnel.

**5. Public Forum Comments**

There were none

**6. Committee response to public comment.**

There were none

**8. Discussion of upcoming SONC Elections**

There are 12 seats up for re-election and 2 vacancies that need to be filled. Apply to vote by mail starting on 3/12/2021. Ballots must be in by 5/14/2021.

**9. COVID-19 Update**

Jesse Smith indicated that new cases were declining and there were fewer hospitalizations. It is strongly urged to continue social distancing; mask wearing and avoid travel.

**10. Community Safety Update & Helpful Tips**

This item was incorporated into SLO Magana's safety presentation.

**11. Winner of the Social Media Misinformation of the Month**

Barbara McDermott announced the winners for February:

1. 1-877-ASK-LAPD will never go to voicemail. If there's a high call volume, you might be on hold for a bit and hear a recording, but a live operator will *always* answer.
2. If you call the police and the operator tells you police will respond, they *will* respond.
3. Be mindful what information you post on social media, including Nextdoor. A good rule of thumb is not to post anything publicly you wouldn't be comfortable seeing on a billboard anywhere in the city. Sensitive information can include:
  - a. phone numbers and email addresses
  - b. information that could make you or others vulnerable
    - i. my elderly neighbor lives alone
    - ii. that dog lives on the corner of Elm & Main. I just knocked on their door, but they're not home
    - iii. I'm going on vacation and looking for a pet sitter who can stay at my house the 6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.
    - iv. posting addresses of vacant houses can attract additional problems, e.g. trespassers, burglars, narcotic activity

**12. Final Announcements and Committee Business and Homework Assignments**

Presentation of three new committee members—Cissy Parkey-Altamirano, Penny Johnson and Jesse Smith. Penny Gilbert given permission to serve as committee Secretary. Emails were assigned to the 3 new members.

Next meeting on March 9, 2021 at 6:30pm.

**13. Adjourn —7:56pm**

### **THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate based on disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

### **PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please email: [gil.imber.sonc@gmail.com](mailto:gil.imber.sonc@gmail.com).

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS** – Neighborhood Council Committee agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Sherman Oaks Public Library, 14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.
- [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org)
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** -- For information on the NC's process for committee action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org).